

SOMEBODY HERE NEEDS YOU.

June 5, 2013

The Honorable Kevin Cotter Michigan House of Representatives S-1288 House Office Building, P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Rep. Cotter,

The Michigan Humane Society works tirelessly to protect animals from suffering due to cruelty and neglect. In keeping with this part of our mission, the organization commends the legislature on taking up the creation of an animal cruelty registry that will protect companion animals from falling into the hands of individuals who are guilty of animal cruelty. Logan's Law - House Bills 4534 and 4535 – will establish this protection and has our unequivocal support.

While we strongly support the lawmakers in this work, we encourage them to take advantage of this opportunity to go the extra mile for animals and strengthen this legislation to further protect Michigan's animals. As the law is currently written, it would apply only to animals adopted from state registered shelters. Animals acquired at pet stores, from breeders, on the internet, through unregistered rescues or from any other source would not be subject to Logan's Law. This means 75 percent of acquired companion animals would not be protected from potentially falling into the hands of a known animal abuser. This is a critical loophole that needs to be closed.

We will not waver in our support of Logan's Law, but encourage the legislature to make it stronger and maximize its reach and impact. The goal of the Michigan Humane Society is to protect ALL of Michigan's companion animals and we're hopeful that amendments can be added to make it a landmark piece of legislation.

We implore Michigan lawmakers to strengthen Logan's Law and send a message to animal abusers that they will not acquire their next pet in Michigan.

Thank you,

Cal Morgan, President and CEO Michigan Humane Society

Cc: Representative Harvey Santana and Representative Paul Muxlow

Our Mission: To end companion animal homelessness, to provide the highest quality service and compassion to the animals entrusted to our care, and to be a leader in promoting humane values.

The Michigan Humane Society adopts out over 8,000 animals each year through its three main shelters, eight retail locations in local PelSmart and Petco stores and a series of adoption events. The Michigan Humane Society is not affiliated with any national humane group including the Humane Society of the United States or American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.